

[24 April, 2001]

RA-'YA SABHA

(d) what action have since been taken by BSNL to provide connections; and

(e) by when all the applicants of the village would be provided telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 60 persons have deposited money for new telephone connections and are registered in the waiting list.

(c) to (e) Telephone connections to the wait listed persons of Fatehpur village are to be provided from Sampat Chak exchange which is at a distance of about 4.5 Kms. The present connectable capacity of this exchange has been fully utilized. The proposal to install a 1000 lines SBM exchange at Sampat Chak could not materialize so far due to lack of accommodation in the existing exchange building.

However, a notice inviting tender for hiring another suitable building has already been issued and the same is being finalized shortly.

The commissioning of 1000 lines SBM exchange at Sampat Chak and laying of underground cable to Fatehpur village will take some time. It is expected that telephone connections to all the wait listed persons of Fatehpur village will be provided by August, 2001.

BSNL quarters at Kali Bari Marg

[†]4153. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of estimates of works to be carried-out in the quarters of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) situated at Kali Bari Marg, New Delhi for the year 2000 and upto March, 2001 which are pending and since when;

(b) by when all estimates would be sent to the civil wing to carry

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

out the said -work after passing these estimates; and

(c) by when the said works would be completed by the civil wing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Only two estimates are awaiting approval and A/A & E/S.

(b) Estimate for repair of pavement is under process and expected to be sanctioned by end of April, 2001. Action on the other estimate for provision of double doors in all the quarters will be taken up after obtaining concurrence of MTNL and Postal Circle to share the cost of the work in respect of the quarters under their pools.

(c) On receipt of financial sanction, the tenders shall be called. The works are likely to be completed within the period ranging from one month to four months after award of the works.

STD/PCO booths in H.P.

[†]4154. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD/PCO booths targeted to be set up during the last year in Himachal Pradesh togetherwith the target achieved;

(b) the criteria adopted for their approval; and

(c) the target fixed for the Ninth Five Year Plan togetherwith the extent of target achieved in the first two years and whether the target would be achieved with this pace by the end of the Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) During the last year *i.e.* 2000-2001; 1909 STD/PCOs were installed in Himachal Pradesh as against the target of 750 STD/TCOs.

(b) STD/PCOs are allotted on franchise basis to all the eligible

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